GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2032
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2008
BLACK MARKETING OF COOKING GAS
Murmu Shri Hemlal;Shakya Shri Raghuraj Singh

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has taken up the matter with the States seeking their assistance in checking black marketing of cooking gas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHAPATEL)

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. To ensure that diversion/unauthorised use of LPG for purposes other than household applications is strictly kept under check by the State Government,Chief Ministers and Chief Secretaries of all State Governments were requested to direct the concerned State agencies to conduct inspections under the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act (EC Act) to check diversion and other forms of misuse with the assistance of Officers of the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs).

While the OMCs are striving to ensure supplies to distributors in accordance with the registered customer strength of the distributors, active cooperation of State Governments is also required to cap, reduce and eventually eliminate the diversion of domestic LPG to the black market and unauthorized use which takes place on account of the wide gap between the retail price of LPG for domestic use and the market price for commercial LPG.